

SOUTH EAST TEXAS AREA

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

July 2019

DELEGATE



Recently, I have been made aware of someone being banned from a District Meeting. I will admit that this sort of thing always makes me cringe. I have been raised in this fellowship to believe that we work even harder with those who disagree with us for the greater good. Further, when some person irritates me there is something within myself that I have to work on. Finally, when someone steps on my toes I cannot retaliate.

I will admit that I believe that it is difficult to have responsibility for facilitating a group, a district or an area. However, I have to be reminded that with this responsibility there is no authority. I cannot afford to let my ego (yes, I have a small one barely worth discussing) take control. I cannot afford to gather around me only those who will agree with my points. I cannot afford to take the business of AA into a secret place or time so that only those who agree with me will be allowed to discuss. Why? Because this is would not be AA, this would be self will run riot.

I could go on but I have also been taught that answers to our problems both big and small can be found in our literature. So, I did some reading and found the following passage from AA's Co-Founder Bill W. As usual, he says it best.

It is an historical fact that practically all groupings of men and women tend to become more dogmatic; their beliefs and practices harden and sometimes freeze. This is a natural and almost inevitable process. All people must, of course, rally to the call of their convictions, and we of AA are no exception. This is a good principle and good dogma. But dogma also has its liabilities. Simply because we have good convictions that work well for us, it becomes easy to assume that we have all the truth. Whenever this brand of arrogance develops, we are certain to become aggressive; we *demand* agreement with us;

we play God. This isn't good dogma; it's very bad dogma. It could be especially destructive for us of AA to indulge in this sort of thing. In AA we are supposed to be bound together in the kinship of common suffering.

Consequently, the full individual liberty to practice any creed or principle or therapy whatever should be a first consideration for us all. Let us not, therefore, pressure anyone with our individual or even our collective views. Let us instead accord each other the respect and love that is due to every human being as he tries to make his way toward the light. Let us always try to be inclusive rather than exclusive; let us remember that each alcoholic among us is a member of AA, so long as he or she so declares. – Bill W. 1965 Grapevine (Page 333 The Language of the Heart)

I pray for our groups, our districts, our area and our fellowship as a whole. I pray for each individual human being that is making his or her way toward the light.

Yours in Service,

Troy

Troy B.
Area 67 Southeast Texas
Panel 69

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

As you all are aware by now, one of the most time consuming responsibilities of the Alternate Delegate, the Area Gratitude Dinner, was recently discontinued. Consequently, I revisited my job description and discovered that in addition to a couple of quarterly newsletter articles (this one and one for SWRDA), I am also supposed to manage special projects and visit Districts.

In trying to come up with a topic for this Newsletter article, I was feeling very much uninspired, so I reached out to someone and he suggested "Honoring Service Legacy". Any one that has attended meetings with me, knows that I tend to ramble, so bear with me, as I have no idea where this may take me, and there is a strong possibility that the Newsletter Editor will delete half of it. I have come to believe many things in the last 16 years, some through experience, some through observation and some through a God given intuition that I believe every human is born with. First, I have come to believe that the 12th Step is really more of a promise than an instruction. For me, this is a reflection of trying to live the St. Francis Prayer in my daily walk with Him. You will never hear me say that Service keeps me sober, nor do I force or expect any other alcoholic to "serve". I've watched far too many "balls of fire" come into AA and take on more responsibility and commitment than is healthy, only to get resentful and go back to drinking. At least one, died drinking while serving as an Area Committee Chair. Also, I no longer believe that I am God's gift to sobriety or service. Sobriety and service are God's gift to me. Another guiding principle since my DCM days has been the idea that there is no such thing as AA police. Each individual and group answers to only one of two authorities: God or King Alcohol.

At least part of my initial motivation to serve the Fellowship through General Service was to pay my sponsor back for all that he did for me. That eventually backfired when my grand-sponsor jumped his ass for whining and said "Why can't you be more like Kris and serve the Fellowship?" I got a call from my sponsor asking me why the hell I did all this service stuff, and all I could think to say was "so you don't have to..." Luckily, my sponsor has since found out the blessings that come from serving others, only it happens to be at his Church and not AA. We have wonderful conversations now about how good it is.

A full quarter of the way into the current rotation, I can tell you that I have visited four Districts so far. One had concerns about Area Finance, and were encouraged to come and be a part of the solution at the Area Finance Committee. Another had a Service Workshop, where the number of presenters equaled the number of attendees. The third one had major treasury problems, as in the treasurer ran off with the money. That District now seems to have a better understanding of the importance of such ideas as the spirit of rotation. The last one is standing on Unity, but definitely needs to take a look at principles before personalities or contracting the services of a good exorcist. There is strength in numbers and in Unity, but might is not always right.

Special projects that I've attached myself to include helping to find the Archives a new home and continued involvement in Area Finance. I may talk more about those in my Area report.

Most of you have heard me whine about my experience as Area Chair. At least part of the distasteful aspect of that job for me was trying to implement Robert's Rules effectively. I have come to believe that either Robert was an untreated Alanon, or he was trying to make sure that nothing ever got accomplished. Either way, if you ever see me go to the microphone with a point of order, please tell me to sit down and shut up, or worse, laugh at me as the 12 & 12 suggests.

A good friend of mine from another Area recently asked me to consider what kind of servant I would rather be remembered as: a good technician that fulfilled his responsibility, or someone who left a lasting mark on his service position. I'm currently satisfied to be the former, but believe we should all strive to be the latter.

Many of you know that I have been blessed to share this journey with my wife. If you know us, you know who got sober first, which doesn't seem to be important to anyone but me. Thank God sobriety/spirituality isn't a contest. Regardless, we learned many lessons together. One is the idea that "there's his side, there's her side, and then there's the truth". We realized that we are almost never in possession of all the facts surrounding any particular issue, making the truth a bit of a moving target. Luckily, my favorite fore-stepper, Dr. Bob, had a way of simplifying things by boiling it all down to a few words. When describing Alcoholics Anonymous, he famously distilled it down to Love and Service.

Kris H. P69/A67 Alternate Delegate

CHAIR

Thank you, SETA for this opportunity to serve. It is humbling and very much a privilege to do so. One of the things I really appreciate about Area service, is realizing that every one of you, loves AA as much as I do. We won't always agree, but I know that each of us will always have the best interests of AA first and foremost in our hearts. I was taught early in my foray into AA service, that the purpose of the General Service structure, is to make 12th Step work possible. As we travel this road together, let's always be on the lookout for the opportunity to carry out this mission.

As we proceed through this first year of the current rotation, I hope all our trusted servants are beginning to "settle in" to their new positions. I know that it feels like a very steep learning for me personally. By October 2020, no doubt we will all feel that we are just beginning to get comfortable and it will be time to stand for a new role.

Recently, our Area took its own inventory. The resulting 4th Step was divided up and handed off to three Ad Hoc committees. These committees have already made some recommendations as to how we can more effectively use our time and resources during Assembly weekends. Due to the necessity of being in a different hotel, we will not be implementing any of these ideas during the July Assembly. You're Alternate Chair and I agree that being in a different location is enough change to process for one Assembly. However, look forward to seeing some differences when we get to the October Assembly. It is our hope that everyone will feel that we are making better use of our time.

In love and service,

Rick M.
Area 67 Chair



ALT.Chair

Thank you, Area 67, for allowing me this opportunity to serve.

A big thank you goes out to District 81 for doing such a fantastic job hosting the April 2019 Assembly. I'm so grateful to District 64 (hosting July 2019), District 31 (hosting October 2019) and District 82 (hosting April 2020).

I don't want anyone to worry though we still have Assemblies available for you to host :)
Below are the answers to some of your questions as well as information on how to participate.

What is involved in hosting an Area Assembly?

Registration: Ensure registration tables are staffed Saturday and Sunday, maintain voting and non-voting logs for the Assembly, distribute badges to everyone at the Assembly, etc.

Coffee: Ensure Suite is staffed with individuals available to make coffee on Saturday and Sunday, obtain materials from previous host district, etc. Please note, the Host District will occasionally incur expenses in replenishing the coffee, supplies, etc. just let me know in advance, and you will be reimbursed by the Area Treasurer. The Host District will be responsible for any costs other than coffee expenses.

GSR Workshop: Provide a Chairperson and recorder for the workshop. Recorder will provide a brief report to the Area Secretary.

Literature Table: Pick up the material at Intergroup, take Inventory of the literature, set up and staff table provided at the Quarterly assembly, sell the literature and keep record of all sales, inventory and reconcile the cash, return collected funds and unsold funds to Intergroup.

Presentations: Provide a short presentation on a Tradition and a Concept as determined by the Area Chairperson.

Meeting: Provide a Chairperson for the Sunday morning meeting.

Clean up: Coordinate with next Assembly Host to transfer Coffee supplies on Sunday.

What Area Assemblies do not have a host?

2020: Jul 11-12, Oct 3-4

My District is unable to provide support for all Hosting functions. Can we still participate?

Absolutely below are some suggestions:

Team up with your neighboring district

Provide support for one or more Hosting function

My District is unable to participate but my group or my District Committee would love to. Can they participate?

Definitely, all members are welcome.

My hope is to get as many people involved as possible, regardless of which District you are from. If you would like to get involved. All are welcome!!!! The best part about service for me has been the relationships. Service has brought me the one thing I didn't know I wanted the ability to give and receive love.

Respectively Submitted

Christina S.

Area 67 Alt-Chair

Chair-alt@aa-seta.org



Frothy emotional appeal seldom suffices. The message which can interest and hold these alcoholic people must have depth and weight. In nearly all cases, their ideals must be grounded in a power greater than themselves, if they are to re-create their lives.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

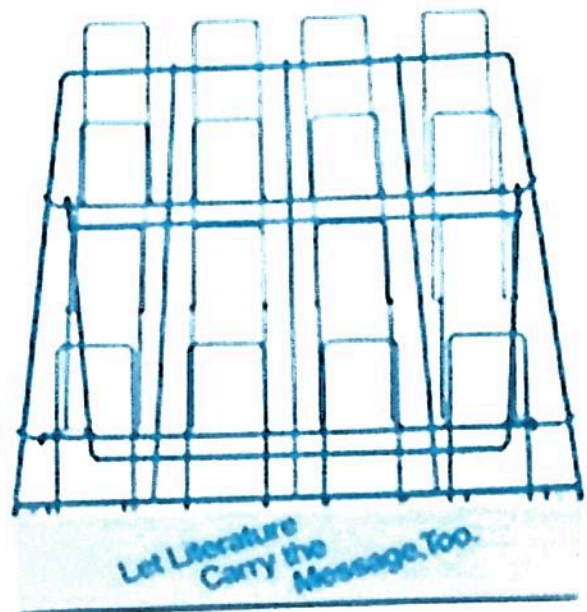
Adopt a Literature Rack

One of the important tasks of the Public Information Committee is to make sure that the general public knows what AA is and what AA isn't. When people are familiar with AA, they are more likely to recommend it to their friends or family. Literature can be a great way to spread this information and the committee has developed an idea that we feel will be helpful. The Area PI Committee is asking that you (a group, a district, an individual) adopt a small 4-slot literature rack.

The Committee will provide you with the rack and the initial pamphlets to fill it. The pamphlets will be Is AA for me? In English and Spanish and A.A. at a Glance in English and Spanish. What the committee is asking you to do is find an appropriate place for the rack. After you have received permission to place the rack somewhere let the committee know its location so that we can share your idea with other groups interested in our "adopt a rack program". Some ideas are, but not limited to, an emergency clinic, a laundromat, a school or a library. It will be your job to check back *frequently* and refill the rack. We will place information on the rack about how to reach the area committee for presentations about AA and the information about who is in charge of refilling the rack.

We could really use your help with this project! The committee is small and Area 67 is very large, but if each one of us decides to become a part of spreading the word, we can reach many still-suffering alcoholics.

Please contact me!
Edwin C.
Area 67 PI Chair
pi-chair@aa-seta.org



COOPERATION WITH PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

CPC Committee Purpose – *“Members of C.P.C. committees inform professionals and future professionals about A.A.— what we are, where we are, what we can do, and what we cannot do. They attempt to establish better communication between A.A.s and professionals, and to find simple, effective ways of cooperating without affiliating.”* – reprinted from *Cooperation with the Professional Community Workbook*, page 5, with permission from *A.A. World Services, Inc.*

Some of the professionals we reach out to include:

alcoholism or other counselor; armed forces officer; athletic coach; corrections officer; court official; educator; employers or employee assistance professionals; health care professional (doctor, nurse, psychiatrist, psychologist, etc.); clergyperson; judge; juvenile services professional; law enforcement officer; lawyer (prosecutor, defense attorney); probation or parole professional; professional student; public health official; senior services professional; social worker; union official – pretty much anyone that deals with alcoholics regularly...

Some of the things the committee has done include:

- Gave formal AA presentations and provided literature to churches, CPS social workers, DWI program participants, civic groups, TDCJ wardens, etc.
- Staffed display tables at professional events and conferences, sometimes at GSO's request
- Sent mailings to professionals offering presentations, literature and to meet with them one on one; in the last two years to probation officers, and adult home health care professionals

We have plans to:

- Implement a 12-step Hospital Program to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic while they are still in the hospital
- Contact local professional schools that train future healthcare, legal/correctional, human resources/employment professionals and offer A.A. presentations
- Follow-up on leads for presentations and meetings with other professionals & groups of professionals
- Staff displays/exhibits at professional meetings and conferences where invited

But we need your help:

The possibilities to carry the message by reaching out to professionals is nearly limitless. But we need people, lots of people. We need Districts, and Groups to form CPC committees, and Individuals to attend and participate in their District, Group, or Area CPC committees, and on those committees, learn how to carry the message by being “Friendly with our Friends” as Bill liked to call it.

Join us:

We meet the first Monday of each month at 7:30pm at the Spring Branch Memorial Club, 1200 Blalock Rd, Suite #378, Houston, 77055; or you can join via GoToMeeting: <https://www.gotomeeting.com/meeting/join-meeting>, meeting ID: 632-634-860

For more information or to help, please contact us at cpc@aa-seta.org

In Service,

David L. – SETA Area 67, Cooperation with Professional Community (CPC) Committee Chairperson



TREATMENT FACILITIES

HELPING OTHERS OVERCOMING ACCESSIBILITIES BARRIERS

How to carry the message to others in need. AA members all need access to receive and carry the message of recovery. For some members there are significant barrier that must be overcome to insure full participation in AA. The barriers can be physical-based access or access to information to receive the message.

“A six-inch step can be an insurmountable obstacle”

Sharing the AA message, Accessibilities issues apply to all alcoholics who have difficulties participating in alcoholics anonymous, whether those difficulties are mental, physical, geographical, cultural, ethnic, spiritual or emotional.

HOW GROUPS CAN OFFER MEMBERS THINGS TO MAKE A.A. READILY AVAILBLE

“Simple things groups can do for accessibilities”

Club Accessibilities Checklist; Available to monitor how accessible is your meeting are available online.

- Parking
- Routes of Travel
- Entrance
- Inside the Building
- Restrooms
- The meeting Room

Literature for Accessibilities; Alcoholics Anonymous, Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions, Daily Reflections and More. Make announcements at your group meetings this literature is available.

- Braille
- Audio Cassettes
- CD-ROMs
- Large Print books
- American Sign Language
- Videos and Video (subtitles)
- Illustrated, Easy-To-Read Literature

Members sharing the message available to people with accessibilities can spread through the accessibilities community and carry the message.

All these resources and additional information about Accessibilities and setting up your meeting space are available at www.aa.org, searching the internet for a variety of Accessibilities Guides and through your local District and Intergroup/ Central Office.

Sarah O.

TFC Alt. Chair Area 67

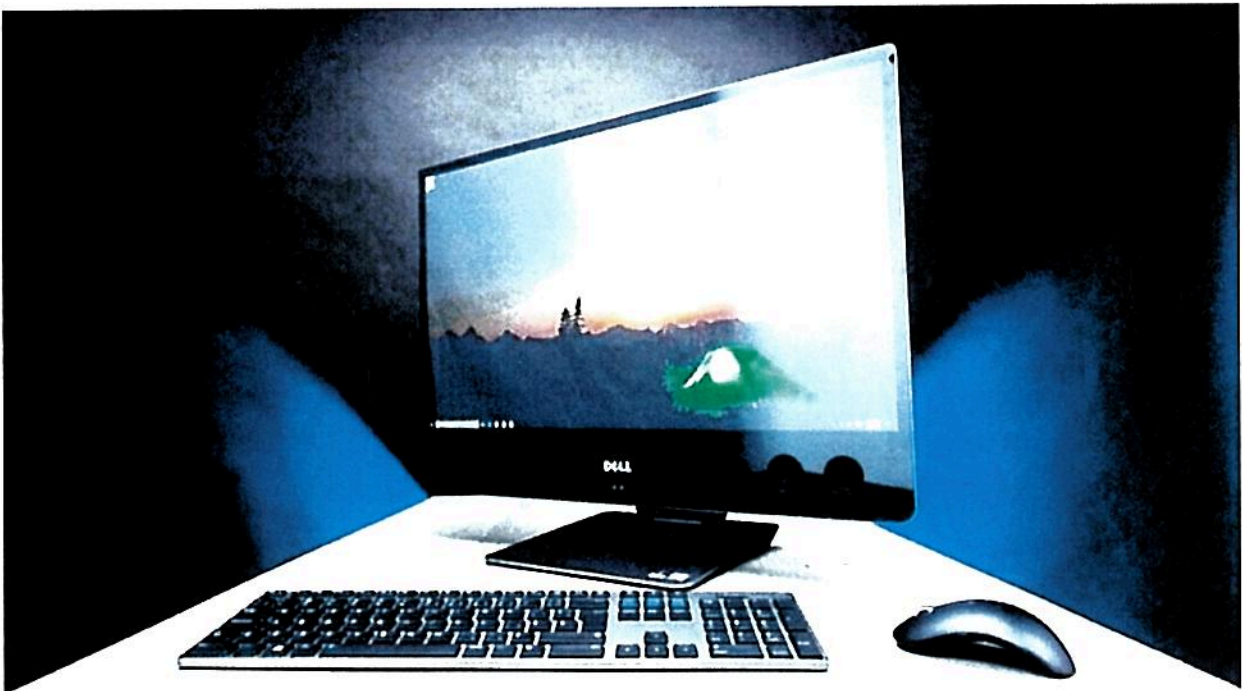
IT COMMITTEE

The IT (Information Technology) Committee has been working hard since last September to migrate our current website from the format we have utilized since early 2000's to a more modern format utilizing WordPress. We are continuing to utilize our web provider, I&I, and the pages will have a newer, modern look, but contain basically the same information as currently displayed.

One of the benefits of utilizing this newer software is that the District DCMs and Committee Chairs, if they are interested, will be able to post their own flyers directly to the District website, as well as update the basic information included, such as trusted servants names, and time, date and location of meetings. Please stop by the IT desk at the July Assembly and check out the new site to see if you like what we have accomplished to date.

We have several new members as well as returning members who have already been put to work. Our SETA Announce group continues to grow. Please NOTE: if you are not currently in the email group and wish to receive the SETA-Announce emails, you can sign up on the front page of our website. In addition, if you want to become a part of a committee or district email group, you can sign up for those emails directly on the appropriate page, also.

The committee will be present during the assembly at the IT Committee table. Please come visit us during the breaks to view the new website and ask for assistance. The members of the Committee will be happy to help.



DISTRICT 90 AREA 67
WE FOLLOW SUGGESTIONS
"You Can't Keep It Unless You Give It Away"



District 90 Convention
August 16-18, 2019
MCM Elegante Hotel

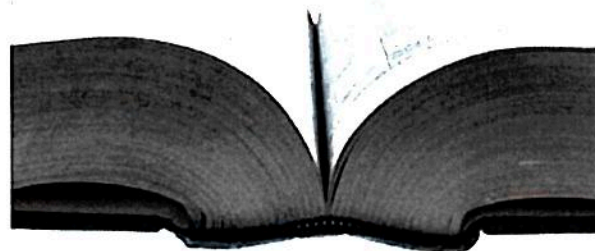
District 90 Gratitude Dinner
November 2, 2019
6220 Westgate Drive

District 90 Traditions Workshop
TBA
1235 Crockett Street

Beaumont Intergroup
4224 College St
Beaumont, TX 77701
409-832-1107

Website Address: www.aadistrict90.org

"When I am willing to do the right thing I am rewarded with an inner peace no amount of liquor could ever provide. When I am unwilling to do the right thing, I become restless, irritable, and discontent. It is always my choice." p.317



SETA Convention 2020

SETA Convention 2020



"Give freely of what you find and join us." AA p.164

January 24th - 26th

AA speakers :
GSO Speaker: Clement C
Danny D-El Segundo, CA.
Quincy W-Agoura Hills, CA.
Karl M-Covina, CA.
Micki B-Bryan, TX.
Al-Anon Speaker: Matthe T., Sugar Land, TX.
Multilingual Speaker: TBA
Alateen Speaker: TBA

...Trudging the Road of Happy Destiny



Abandon yourself to God as you understand God. Admit your faults to Him and to your fellows.

Clear away the wreckage of your past. Give freely of what you find and join us.

We shall be with you in the Fellowship of the Spirit, and you will surely meet some of us as you trudge the Road of Happy Destiny.

AA p164

SETA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2019

CONTACT DATA FOR AREA 67 PANEL 65 TRUSTED SERVANTS

AREA OFFICERS

Delegate
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delegate-67@aa-seta.org

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Chairperson
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Registrar
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Treasurer
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Alternate Treasurer
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Eddie.

Alternate Archives
OPEN

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Alternate CPC
Rosemary

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Treatment Facilities (TFC)
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tfc@aa-seta.org

Alternate TFC
OPEN

SETA 2018 Convention Chairperson
Danny G.

LIAISONS TO INTERGROUP

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Liaison-houston@aa-seta.org

Ninth District
Lori H.
Liaison-9@aa-seta.org

Ninth District Alternate
OPEN

Oficina Intergroupa Hispana (D63, 64, 65)
OPEN

Intergroupa Hispano Del SW (D66 & 67)
Ramces C.

OTHER

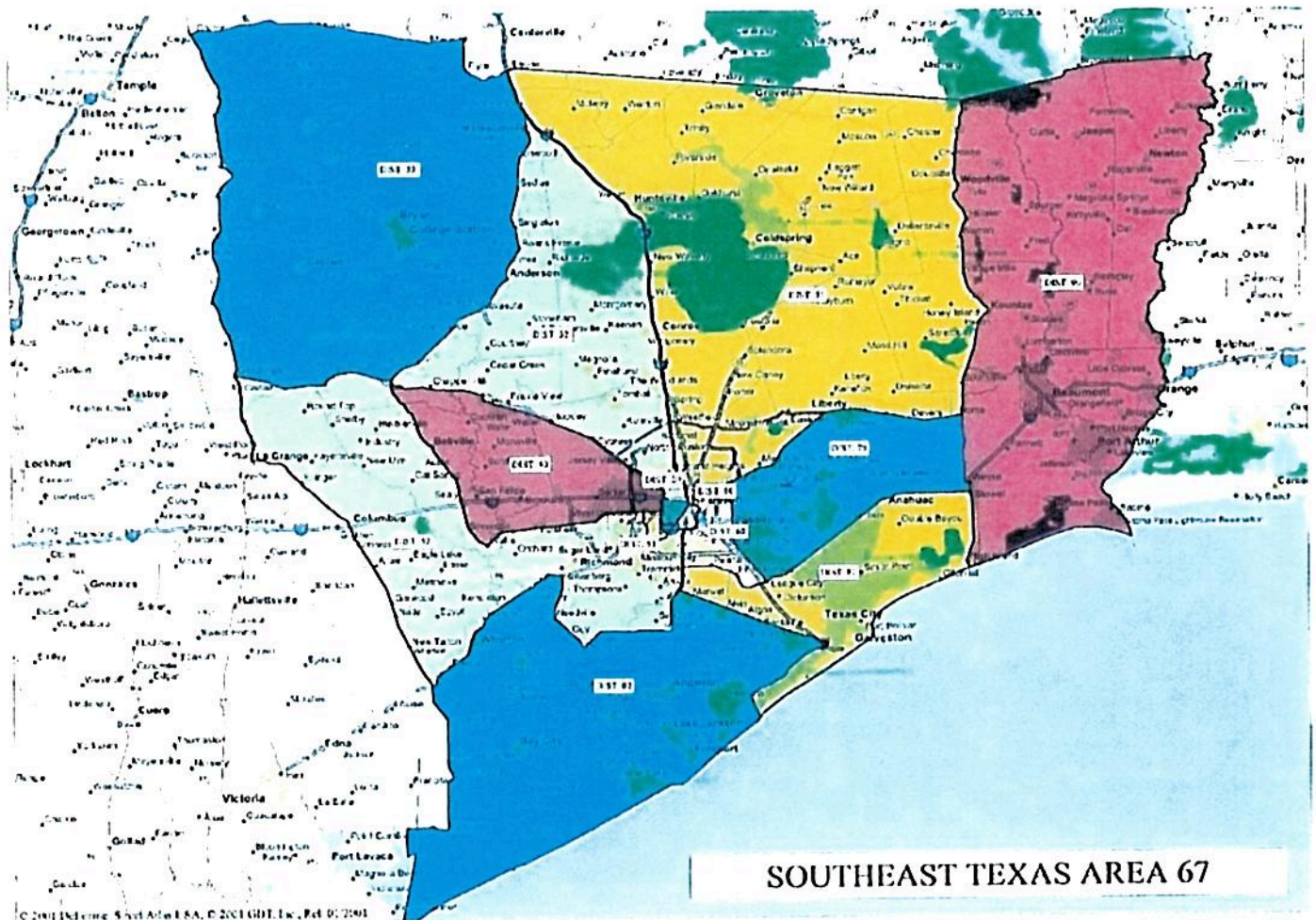
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Vern P.

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Betsy G.

Webmaster
Vern P.
webmaster@aa-seta.org

Archivist
Sarah D.
archivist@aa-seta.org

ENGLISH DISTRICTS OF AREA 67



DISTRICT MEMBERS

District 10 DCM – Tracy W.

District 10 Alt. DCM- Olga J.

District 20 DCM – Rachel R.

District 20 Alt DCM – Jean P.

District 31 DCM – Patricia H.

District 32 DCM – Richard L.

District 32 Alt DCM – Kimberly B.

District 33 DCM – Tony W.

District 33 Alt DCM – OPEN

District 40 DCM – Cindy M.

District 40 Alt DCM – Reino F.

District 51 DCM – Steven W.

District 51 Alt DCM – Kern V.

District 52 DCM – Meece T.

District 52 Alt DCM – Richard G

District 60 DCM- Jann J

District 60 Alt DCM- OPEN

District 70 DCM- Brady G.

District 70 Alt DCM- Byron T.

District 81 DCM- Catherine G.

District 81 Alt DCM- Mike P

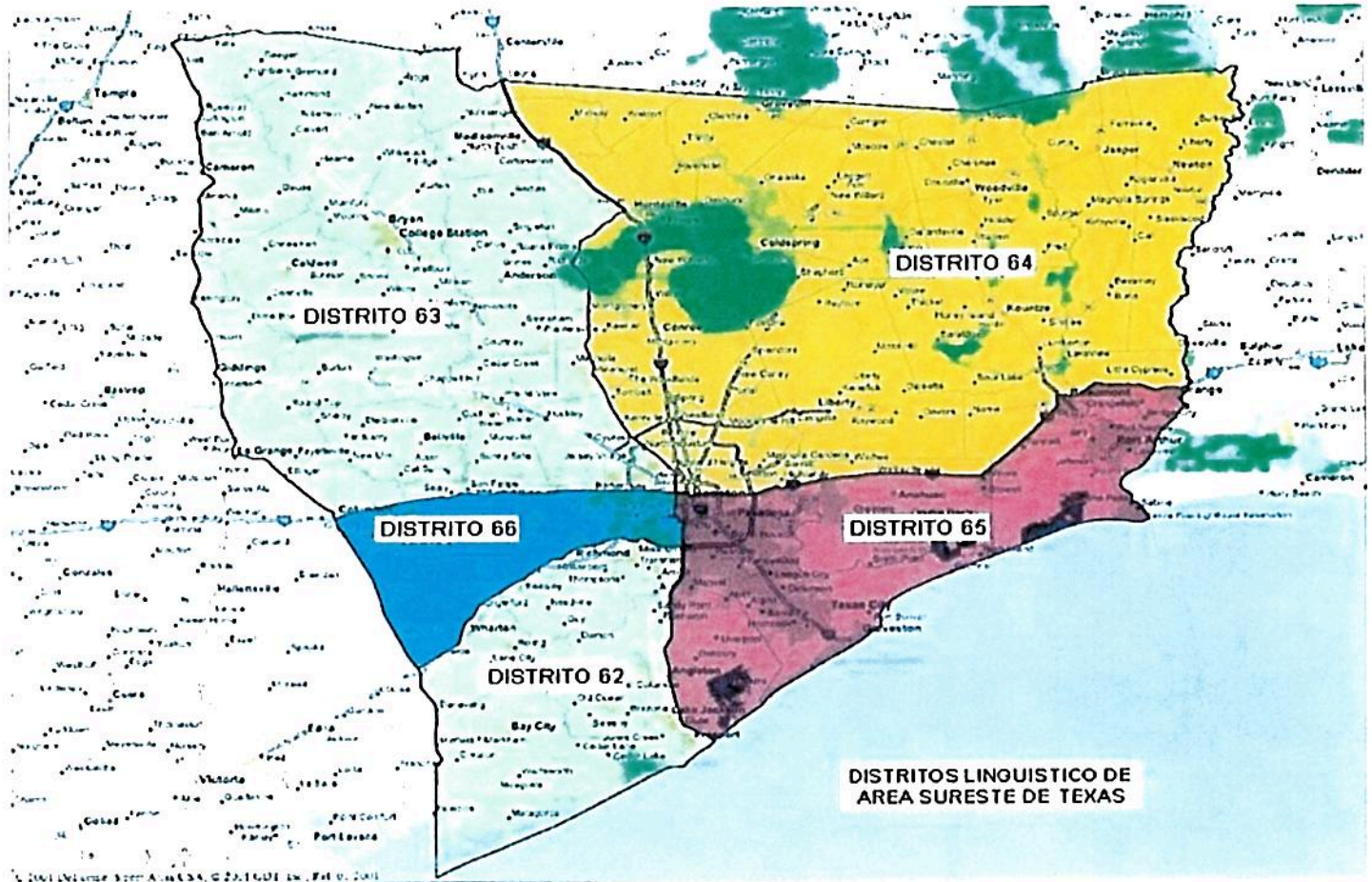
District 82 DCM- Jeanne B

District 82 Alt- Theresa (Teri) V.

District 90 DCM- Bella L.

District 90 Alt DCM- Art G.

SPANISH DISTRICTS OF AREA 67



DISTRICT MEMBERS

District 62 MCD: – Manuel R
District 62 Alterno: – Abierto

District 63 MCD – Alicia M.
District 63 Alterno: – Jose P.

District 64 MCD: – Abierto
District 64 Alterno: – Severiano M.

District 65 MCD: – Bernardino T.
District 65 Alterno: – Arnulfo C.

District 66 MCD: – Jesus Z.
District 66 Alterno: – Abraham A.



Service Material from the General Service Office

ESTIMATED WORLDWIDE A.A. INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP MEMBERSHIP

YEAR	ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP	GROUPS	YEAR	ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP	GROUPS
1935	2	0	2001	2,215,293	100,131
1940	1,400	50	2002	2,092,460	103,768
1945	12,986	556	2003	2,066,851	104,589
1950	96,475	3,527	2004	2,082,550	105,294
1955	135,905	6,249	2005	1,867,212	106,202
1960	162,037	8,615	2006	1,996,935	106,477
1965	232,105	12,444	2007	2,044,655	113,168
1970	311,450	16,459	2008	2,085,125	116,773
1975	533,590	26,456	2009	2,103,033	115,773
1976	574,318	29,352	2010	2,057,672	107,976
1977	612,876	31,587	2011	2,133,842	114,070
1978	627,456	33,241	2012	2,131,549	114,642
1979	868,171	39,964	2013	2,138,421	115,358
1980	907,575	42,105	2014	2,040,629	115,326
1981	937,705	47,797	2015	2,089,698	117,748
1982	1,065,299	53,576	2016	2,103,184	118,305
1983	1,191,946	58,576			
1984	1,351,793	62,860			
1985	1,445,999	67,019			
1986	1,556,316	73,192			
1987	1,617,296	76,184			
1988	1,734,734	85,270			
1989	1,793,834	87,696			
1990	2,047,469	93,914			
1991	2,148,757	96,500			
1992	2,489,541	89,215			
1993	2,062,380	90,155			
1994	1,790,528	89,239			
1995	1,726,341	86,449			
1996	1,959,829	96,997			
1997	1,967,433	97,568			
1998	1,989,124	98,710			
1999	1,995,804	99,020			
2000	2,160,013	100,766			

Because AA has never attempted to keep formal membership lists, it is extremely difficult to obtain completely accurate figures on total membership at any given time. The information shown here is based on reports given by groups listed with general service offices (GSOs) around the world and does not represent an actual count of those who consider themselves A.A. members. We are aware of A.A. activity in approximately 175 countries, including 61 autonomous GSOs in other lands.